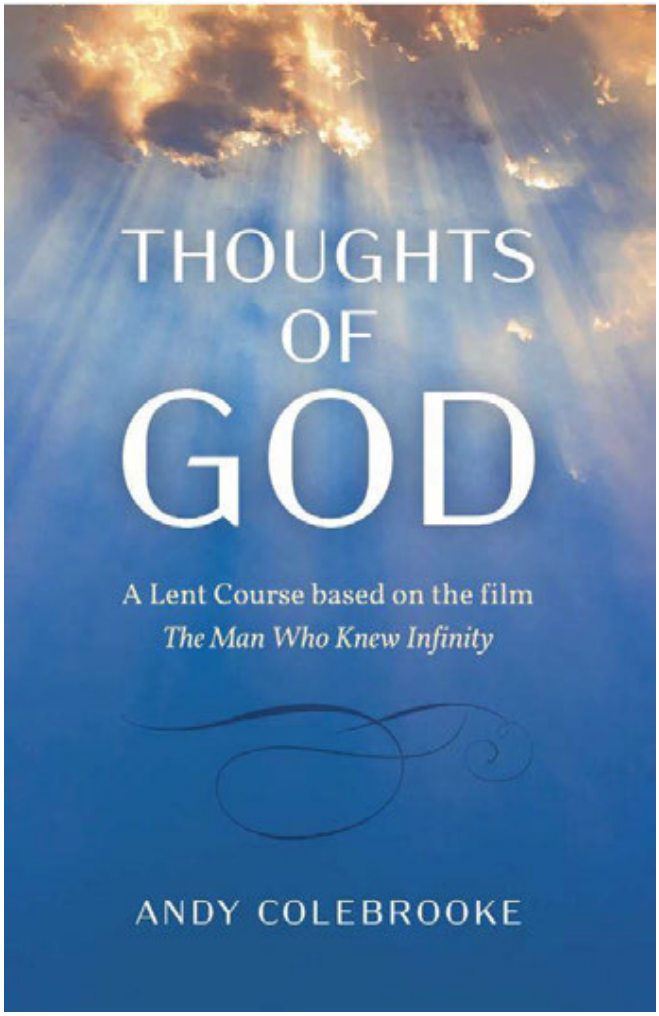


Village Web

February 2023



This year's **Lent Course** is based on the book *Thoughts of God* by Rev'd Andy Colebrooke. It is planned for six Wednesday evenings starting on Ash Wednesday 22 February at Duddenhoe End Village Hall starting at 7pm.

The course is based on the film ***The Man Who Knew Infinity*** which will be shown at the first meeting.

Please do join us for our Lent study, copies of the book will be available from the Church Office and on the evening.

Front Cover – 'Looking back to Little Chishill' by Tristram Alexander

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February Services

Sunday 5

9.00am Holy Communion at St Nicholas Church **Little Chishill** SG8 8PA
10.45am Family Worship at **Chrishall Village Hall** SG8 8QL

Sunday 12

9.00am Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Church **Heydon** SG8 8PW
10.45am Family Worship at St Swithuns Church **Great Chishill** SG8 8SS

Sunday 19

9.00am Holy Communion at Hamlet Church **Duddenhoe End** CB11 4XN
10.45am Family Café Church at Holy Trinity Church **Chrishall** SG8 8QU

Sunday 26

9.00am Holy Communion at St Marys Church **Strethall** CB11 4XJ
10.45am Family Worship with Holy Communion at St Nicholas **Elmdon** CB11 4LT

Service details, diary events and more at **www.icknieldwayparish.blogspot.co.uk**

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Wed: Duxford Community Centre *9.30am & 10.35am
Wed: Barley *5.45pm, 6.45pm & 8pm
Thurs: Thriplow 9.10 HIPP & ZOOM Pilates 8pm
Sat: ZOOM HIPP 8.00 am
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Wednesday: Reset & Flow	12:00-12:55
Friday: Nourishing Flow	09:30-10:30
Saturday: Uplifting Flow	09:00-10:00
Saturday: Beginners/ Gentle Flow	10:30-11:30



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Parish of the Icknield Way Villages - Wardens' Letter

At the time of writing this last month, IWP had finished its work of assimilating feedback from local people – church regulars and others – and published its new Parish Profile and advertisement for a new rector to lead us. You should be able to read it on the parish website (simple Google: "parish of the icknield way", or similar).

We believe that meeting together regularly is a necessary part of supporting and encouraging each other in our faith in Jesus. However, the shadow of Covid hangs over us, as it does over every Church parish in the land. Numbers of regular church attendees have fallen dramatically country-wide, and IWP is no different. Many, including in our own parish, have great reservations about coming back to church; we are all witnessing the return to mask-wearing in many aspects of our daily lives. Some have felt very threatened by the idea of communal gatherings of any sort, and yet there are others who believe that the enforced closure of churches by government edict was a great mistake.

Whatever our view, we remember the words of Jesus, himself, when challenged about the greatest commandment in the Law of Moses, gave this answer: " "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" "…in other words, make sure to put God first in everything in your life…"And the second is like it:" "Love your neighbour as yourself" ". As we strive to do the first bit, we must never forget to do the second: if our neighbour needs physical space and distancing as we attempt to meet again as church in person…let's do our very best to give what they need, out of compassion and care for their situation.

As a parish, our minds are turning to ways in which we can better show the love of Jesus in our village communities. For instance, I've had several suggestions already of people being aware of the

growing number of carers locally. Can the church arrange a meeting point for people in this situation, or some form of respite offer? Talks are going ahead on this one! Are there people on our street we rarely see around and about now? Might they be longing for a friendly knock on the door? Perhaps someone might welcome a visit from a church person…so can we be more attuned to needs of this sort? I pray the Lord helps us to really see our neighbour and their needs. And one of the best ways to help is simply to pray and ask God to show us.

Other ideas, too, are coming up all the time. A good example is a church fundraising opportunity put forward by Bill Jones of Great Chishill. Elsewhere in this edition, you will find his article, in which he offers his painting skills to the community….I have to declare an interest: Bill did an amazing painting of our Spaniel, Jasper, recently…he's very good! Are there other talents in our community waiting to be unleashed which may, somehow, help our neighbour?

"Love your neighbour as yourself"…by the grace of God, we will.

Happy New Year! **Jon Wayper**

URC News

URC Services for February
Sunday 5th - 6.00pm
Led by Rev'd Sue Fender
Sunday 19th - 9.30am
Led by Rev'd Sue Fender

Film Night
Tuesday 7th (NOT the 14th!) - 7.30pm
The Last Bus
From John O'Groats to Lands End… Tom (Timothy Spall) is about to make the journey of a lifetime… One bus at a time.

“An unforgettable performance from Timothy Spall”
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Scottish Dancing continues on a Monday evenings. 7.30-9.30
No experience needed, just a sense of humour required.

New Age Kurling
A new village activity taking place in the Gt Chishill Village Hall on Friday Evenings at 7.30pm.
For more information contact Alison Truett 01763838093. A cross between Traditional Curling (without the ice!) and bowling. Lots of fun.

Heydon Films

A prize winner you might not have seen or a classic you might like to see again this winter.

Friday 24 February – *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* (1947): one of his best films, the much put upon Danny Kaye finds escape day-dreaming, until he has to confront the evil Boris Karloff and save the girl of his dreams, 1hr 50min.

Friday 24 March – *The Butterfly’s Tongue* (1999): bitter sweet story of an 8 year old boy beginning school in Galicia under an inspirational teacher. The time is 1936 as the divisions leading to the Spanish civil war, are surfacing. A prize winner in Spain. Spanish with English sub-titles, 1hr 33min

Entry: £5.00 for wine and cake – all proceeds to Heydon Church funds. Location: Mission Hut, 14 Chishill Road, Heydon. Time 7.30pm for 8.00pm

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Book a Sketch

Have you a favourite building - your house, the church, or a pet? How about challenging the artist to a watercolour sketch? Send in a photo and I will do my best to come up with an original picture.

I have been sketching now for about ten years, mainly doing pencil or pen drawings with watercolour. I am not trained, never studied Art at school, just woke up one day and picked-up a sketchbook – a bit like Forest Gump and his running! I have done several pet drawings for friends and family and, whilst not quite a Monet, Manet or Whistler, the recipients can usually see the likeness and appreciate the picture, or so they say.

So, let me get to the point…….why don't you challenge me with a photo of your choice, and I will apply myself to come up with a picture for you. Something unique, bespoke, and original. For this service I will charge you £25 (or more if you like) of which I will give half to the Parish.

The pictures will be unframed on good quality cold-pressed watercolour paper up to A4 size.

If you would like to challenge me then please send your images, hard or digital to the Parish Office. Here is some of my work.

Bill Jones







Parish Charity

Nominations are sought for our Parish Charity. Fund raising, for a charity alongside our own parish, is one of the activities of our church. We are conscious that the parish is in constant need of funds; however, we seek to serve others as loving members of Christ's family.

Since 2015 we have supported Macmillan, Open Doors, The Salvation Army (Saffron Walden Branch), Romsey Mill (towards the wonderful work they do with young people in Cambridgeshire), Chrishall Primary School and, our current charity, Barnabas Fund. This is not an exclusive arrangement. Other charities have also been supported over the years.

Nomination forms available from the Church Office, our churches and can be requested by emailing the church office on iwp.parishoffice@gmail.com to receive a digital copy.

Coffee Morning

Wednesday 1 February

10am - 12pm



St Swithun's Great Chishill

Come and enjoy some tea, coffee, cake and chat at St Swithun's Great Chishill, taking full advantage of our wonderful new facilities. Children's corner available.

All welcome.

Desperate Needs in the World

How we can simply help

"food.gives", an arm of the well known Barnabas Aid fund, has brought sustenance and renewed hope for a million families in the first year of their action plan. Among these are people in Ukraine, Eritrea, Pakistan and South Sudan. How are they accomplishing this? By involving as many folk who are able to give a little or a lot. They have also drawn on volunteers to pack and dispatch in their depot in Swindon. Very simply this is the commodity – Grains! Plus salt. Just 4 simple grains: rice, wholemeal (not self raising) flour, lentils, chickpeas, and salt all packed in bags (no tins).

We can get involved by going to www.food.gives or by calling 01793 744557 and requesting a "starter pack" where everything you need (boxes/labels/instructions etc) will be supplied including how to return the boxes (DHL deliver the boxes free for you and can be dropped off at the post office in Duxford which is a DHL collection point). Friends and families can help fill the boxes and/or request their own.

Food.gives are also responsible for delivering essential food in the form of e'Pap for severely malnourished children (e'Pap is a pre-cooked porridge that is a blend of maize, soya, vitamins and minerals, which are in a highly absorbable form). A donation of just £9 would provide a sack of this life saving food. Donations can be made on the www.food.gives website or by calling 01793 744557

Jo Rudd

Keep The Date

Saturday 18th March, St Patrick's Night Celebration at Great Chishill Village Hall with the Elderly Bros. Details in next month's Village Web.

District Church Meetings

During March each of our 7 districts (Chrishall, Elmdon, Great Chishill, Hamlet, Heydon, Little Chishill and Strethall) will be holding their Annual Meetings. Exact dates of these will be published on church notice boards in early February. Do please look out for these meetings and support your local district church and district wardens. If anyone would like to take on a role please do contact the church office.

Photographic Competition

A huge THANK YOU to the many people who have entered our photographic competition. We have been blown away by the quantity, quality, and diversity of all the entries. Our first winner can be seen on our cover today (although unfortunately



Photo by Mark Jennings



Photo by Donna Munroe

the picture had to be cropped to fit the page). The picture is ‘Looking back to Little Chishill’ by Tristram Alexander. Thank you Tristram for your lovely entry which is very appropriate for these frosty mornings as were the two lovely pictures above.

We have been so impressed with the entries that we hope to hold an exhibition in the summer to show these amazing photographs. Further details to follow.



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Snowdrop Viewing

Great Chishill Windmill are delighted to offer a special invitation to visit a private nature reserve to view snowdrops. The owner, who is a keen supporter of the village, has offered us the opportunity for a limited number of people to view his 12-acre reserve on **Saturday 11th February 2023** (10:00 to 15:30). This proved very popular last year, and funds raised this year will go towards the maintenance of The Great Chishill Windmill.

The thousands of snowdrops were all planted by hand mainly by the owner over a period of 30 years. This is a unique opportunity as the site is threatened by the East West rail link and may not be accessible in the near future. We plan to provide light refreshments as before or feel free to bring a picnic. Donations are requested.

The site is approximately 8 miles from Great Chishill located off the A10 between Foxton and Harston on the East Side. The reserve is up a farm track and there will be a person in a Hi-Vis jacket at the entrance. It is safer to approach the turning from the Harston direction where the entrance is on the left and easier to spot. Approaching from Foxton requires a right turn off the busy A10.

There is no need to book but it would be useful to know how many people are interested so for any queries and to let us know email info@greatchishillwindmill.com or call John Wahlich on 01763 838044. Any offers to help with catering and setting up would also be much appreciated.



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Pancake Day!



Shrove Tuesday (21 Feb 2023) is the day immediately preceding Ash Wednesday (the first day of Lent), which is celebrated in the UK by consuming pancakes. In other countries, especially those where it is called *Mardi Gras*, this is a carnival day, and also the last day of 'fat eating' or 'gorging' before the fasting period of Lent. The term *Mardi Gras* is French for 'Fat Tuesday'. Shrove Tuesday is exactly 47 days before Easter Day. The date can be any between 3 February and 9 March inclusive, depending on the cycles of the moon.

The expression 'Shrove Tuesday' comes from the word shrive, meaning 'absolve'. Ælfric of Eynsham's *Ecclesiastical Institutes* from around 1000 AD states: 'In the week immediately before Lent everyone shall go to his confessor and confess his deeds and the confessor shall so shrive him as he then may hear by his deeds what he is to do [in the way of penance]'. In many Christian parish churches a popular Shrove Tuesday tradition is the ringing of the church bells (on this day, the toll is known as the Shriving Bell) 'to call the faithful to confession before the solemn season of Lent' and for housewives to 'begin frying their pancakes'.

The association between pancakes and Shrove Tuesday may have arisen as it uses up foods which are discouraged from being eaten during the Lenten season, such as butter, eggs, and fat. These ingredients are used during Shrovetide to make pancakes or other rich foods. Before the Reformation, the celebration of Shrovetide lasted a week or more before the start of Lent. The specific custom of Christians eating pancakes on Shrove Tuesday dates to the 16th century.

Basic pancake recipe: 100g plain flour, pinch salt, 1 egg, 300ml milk. Fat or oil to fry. Sieve flour and salt, add the egg and a little milk, beat or whisk thoroughly to give a smooth thick batter. Gradually whisk in the rest of the milk. Heat oil or fat in the frying pan, before spooning a little batter, then move pan so batter creates a paper thin layer. Cook until set on the bottom,

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shake slightly to make sure it is ready, then toss to cook other side. Serve with lemon and sugar, or a variety of other sweet or savoury ingredients.
Shrove Tuesday was once known as a 'half-holiday' in Britain, which started at 11:00 am with the ringing of a church bell. On Pancake Day, 'pancake races' are held in villages and towns across the UK. Participants with frying pans race through the streets tossing pancakes into the air and catching them in the pan while running. The tradition is said to have originated in 1445 when a housewife from Olney, Buckinghamshire, was so busy making pancakes that she forgot the time until she heard the church bells ringing for the service. She raced out of the house to church while still carrying her frying pan and pancake, tossing it to prevent it from burning. The pancake race at Olney traditionally has only women contestants who carry a frying pan and race over a 415-yard course to the finishing line. The rules are strict: contestants must toss the pancake at the start and the finish, and wear a scarf and apron.
Heydon Church will be holding their own pancake race/s on Saturday 18 February at 2.30pm. Do come along and join in the fun.

Scouts in Barley

7th Royston (Barkway) Scout Group officially opened its hut in 1983. Since then, they have improved, maintained, and repaired it but are now in a situation where they really need to replace the old wooden hut with a building that will enable them to grow as a group and continue to provide the full range of scouting activities not just to the current generation of Beavers, Cubs Scout and Explorers but also to the generations that will hopefully follow behind them. They currently provide scouting to over 118 weekly users aged between 6 and 18, plus leaders and are keen to continue to do this going forward. The hut wasn't new when purchased from Anglia University and it is now showing its age!
The group is actively fund raising to build a new hut, that could last many, many years to come. This hut will have updated facilities, a range of kitchens, and modern toilets, so giving future generations of Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorer Scouts opportunities to continue having fun and learn skills to set them up for life.
Please keep an eye out for the fundraising endeavours.

The Hundred Parishes Society

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Flowering snowdrops are a welcome sight in early February. Although not native to this country, these spring-flowering bulbs were planted in churchyards from the 16th century onwards. As their seeds are dispersed by ants, they have become naturalised in suitable locations such as hedgerows. Snowdrops carpet parts of Hatfield Forest and the gardens of Audley End and Easton Lodge where visitors can admire them; smaller clusters will be present in most of the churchyards around the Hundred Parishes.

Snowdrops are easily seen, but other early spring flowers will follow them as the days lengthen. Yellow-flowered primroses, winter aconites and lesser celandines appear alongside sweet violets. All these flowers produce pollen and nectar, vital food for early-foraging honeybees, queen bumblebees and other insects. Surveys of churchyards indicate they can be havens for wildflowers often supporting species which have become rare in the wider countryside.

Whilst neatly mown grass is appreciated by many, leaving vegetation uncut allows many attractive grassland plants to flower for the benefit of insects.

The Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland organises a wildflower hunt to record what is in flower at the start of the year. The aim is to record how





flowers are responding to a warming climate. Enthusiasts search their local area, noting what is in flower. This year, the number of species recorded within the Hundred Parishes was much reduced, almost certainly due to the wintry weather experienced in December.

More flowers will bloom as spring advances, so I encourage you to enjoy one or more of the walks or open gardens listed on www.hundredparishes.org.uk - or visit your local churchyard. If you are able, take some photos of what is in flower to share with friends or family or post them on Facebook, perhaps on The Hundred Parishes Facebook group

Tricia Moxey, Trustee





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Many thanks to all our contributors. The Village Web continues to seek a wide range of articles and pictures for publication. Please continue to submit your articles.

Parish Contacts - *Telephone codes are 01763 unless stated*

Rector: Vacant (Parish currently in interregnum)

Church Office:
Mon, Tues,Thurs and Fri 9am to 1pm - Church Office, Crawley End, Chrishall, Royston, Herts SG8 8QL Tel: 837272 Email: iwp.parishoffice@gmail.com

Lay Minister: Vacant

Parish Church Warden & Authorised Local Preacher: Jon Wayper
Tel: 01799 732045 Email: jwayper@hotmail.com

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Fiona Dyer Tel: 07854 602373
Email: iwp.safeguarding@gmail.com

District Wardens:
Chrishall – David Wilkinson 837303
Gt Chishill – Angela Patrick Sutcliffe 837353
Heydon – Alex Duffus 836903
Strethall – Liz Stott 01799 521217
Elmdon – Ned Tozer 838890
Hamlet – Sarah Westerhuis 07739550061
Lt Chishill – Elaine Knobel-Forbes 838781

Children's and Youth Work: Contact office - 837272

Treasurer: Laurence Brett Tel: 838167 Email: laurencebrett@icloud.com

Donations: Barclays Bank – Sort: 20-73-26 Account: 40898023

Tower Bell Ringing: For all towers please contact the church office 837272

Chrishall Primary School: Head Teacher Tracey Bratley Tel: 838592

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The Parish of the Icknield Way Villages

Published by the Parish of The Icknield Way Villages
on behalf of the churches in our community

Great Chishill Sloe Gin Competition 2023

Everyone is welcome to join in our historic village competition, no previous experience required!

Categories

Nouveau sloe gin – made with Autumn 2022 sloes
Vintage sloe gin - any year you are proud of!
Ringers' Delight – your best homemade fruit-based tipple
Additional award for best presented entry

Competition entries to 19 Heydon Road by Monday 20th February, please.
Fee per entry £6, or two or more entries for £10. Competition entry includes party admission.
Further details and entry form from
www.greatchishill.org.uk/downloads/EntryForm2023.pdf

Sloe Gin Tasting and Results Party

Come and taste the entries – open to all!

Saturday 25th February 7.30pm URC Hall

Party admission: Competitors free or £7 per head (without a competition entry). Available via JustGiving or on the door. Please bring a plate of cheese or nibbles for your table. There will be a pay bar.

Proceeds to Bell Fund. Payment can be by JustGiving page or scan the QR code. Please add note saying what it is for and please **make sure you tick the Gift Aid boxes.** Cash payment also accepted.
Donations (Just Giving):
www.justgiving.com/fundraising/greatchishillbells

Any queries contact Helen Whitehead 07914152444

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Cambridge University Gospel Choir

Supported by the fabulous Chrishall Primary School Choir



Saturday 11 February

6.00pm Holy Trinity, Chrishall

Followed by refreshments

Distributed free by volunteers to all the homes in the Parish of the Icknield Way Villages - Chrishall, Elmdon with Wenden Lofts, Duddenhoe End, Great Chishill, Little Chishill, Heydon and Strethall.